

## District 117: Postsecondary and Career Expectations (revised March 2023)

Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions on careers and post-secondary education or training, plan a course of study, and make financial aid assessment with family members.



| By the end of 9th grade:  | By the end of 10th grade:   | By the end of 11th grade:   | By the end of 12th grade:  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>A student should be supported to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Identify a career cluster and complete a career interest survey</li><li>● Complete an orientation to career clusters</li><li>● Select a career pathway within a career cluster or interest</li><li>● Meet with a counselor to discuss coursework and postsecondary career plans</li><li>● Develop an initial four-year plan that relates to their interests, values, and strengths</li><li>● Consider rigorous academic opportunities</li><li>● Develop understanding about high school graduation requirements compared to post-secondary requirements</li></ul> | <p><b>A student should be supported to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Revisit career cluster and career interest survey</li><li>● Participate in activities related to a career cluster of interest</li><li>● Identify and explore careers related to career interest and/or career pathway</li><li>● Compare current GPA, academic, and career indicators with ISBE College and Career Readiness Framework</li><li>● Review and update four-year plan that relates to their interests, values, and strengths</li><li>● Visit at least one workplace aligned with career interests</li><li>● Consider rigorous academic opportunities</li></ul> | <p><b>A student should be supported to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Revisit career cluster and career interest survey</li><li>● Take at least one college entrance exam</li><li>● Visit at least three post-secondary institutions</li><li>● Attend a college fair</li><li>● Attend a financial aid workshop</li><li>● Create a resume and personal statement</li><li>● Review and update four-year plan that relates to their interests, values, and strengths</li><li>● Consider rigorous academic opportunities</li></ul>  | <p><b>By December 31 of 12th grade a student should have:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Completed appropriate applications to post-secondary institutions as required</li><li>● Ensure all steps in the post-secondary admission process are completed on time</li><li>● Had the opportunity to attend a financial aid application workshop</li><li>● Completed a financial aid application or waiver</li></ul> <p><b>By the end of 12th grade a student should be supported to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Complete a course, internship, workplace learning or community service related to career pathway</li><li>● If applicable, receive industry-based certification(s) relating to career pathway</li><li>● Finalize a post-secondary plan</li></ul> |
| <p><b>A student should know:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Graduation requirements and potential opportunities for coursework connected to their career pathway</li><li>● One or two career clusters for further exploration</li><li>● The relationship of high school coursework, attendance and grades to post-secondary plans</li><li>● Importance of community service and extracurricular activities to post-secondary and career plans</li></ul>  | <p><b>A student should know:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Educational requirements, cost, and expected entry- and mid-level salary of target occupation</li><li>● Benefit of rigorous academic opportunities to postsecondary access and completion</li><li>● The important of attending a career related activity or career event</li><li>● The different types of postsecondary credentials and institutions</li><li>● General timing of post-secondary entrance exams and applications</li></ul>  | <p><b>A student should know:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Application deadlines, test timing, cost and prep for industry-based certification for career pathways</li><li>● A comprehensive understanding of multiple post-secondary options and pathways</li><li>● 3-5 target schools, one foundation and one reach school for post-secondary program of study</li><li>● Possible impacts of remediation on post-secondary goals</li><li>● Career attributes related to career interests</li><li>● Financial aid deadlines for chosen post-secondary options</li></ul> | <p><b>A student should know:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● How career pathway courses and experiences articulate to degree programs at post-secondary options</li><li>● Affordability of post-secondary options in relation to expected entry-level career salary and anticipated debt</li><li>● Where to find local scholarship opportunities</li><li>● Estimated cost of each post-secondary option</li><li>● Terms and conditions of scholarships, loans, and other financial aid</li></ul>   |